

In Australia, poison was used to ignite, and burn anti-Semitic slogans into, the lawns of the Parliament House in the state of Tasmania;

In St. Petersburg, Russia, vandals desecrated approximately 50 gravestones in a Jewish cemetery, painting the stones with swastikas and anti-Semitic graffiti;

In Toulon, France, a Jewish synagogue and community center were set on fire;

And just 4 weeks ago in Toronto, Canada, vandals attacked a Jewish school, a Jewish cemetery, and area synagogues, painting swastikas and anti-Semitic slogans on the walls of a synagogue and on residential property in a nearby, predominantly Jewish, neighborhood.

Anti-Semitism in old and new forms is also increasingly emanating from the Arab and Muslim world on a sustained basis, including through books published by government-owned publishing houses throughout the Arab region.

The sharp rise in anti-Semitic violence has caused international organizations such as the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) to elevate, and bring renewed focus to, the issue, including the convening by the OSCE in June 2003 of a conference in Vienna dedicated solely to the issue of anti-Semitism. The OSCE will again convene a conference dedicated to addressing the problem of anti-Semitism on April 28–29, 2004, in Berlin, with the United States delegation to be led by former Mayor of New York City Ed Koch.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the manner in which Congress has consistently supported efforts to address the rise in anti-Semitic violence. In that spirit we must ensure the United States Government remains strongly committed to supporting international efforts to address anti-Semitism through bilateral relationships and interaction with international organizations such as the OSCE, the European Union, and the United Nations. It is in this spirit that we can truly say, "Never Again."

ON THE OCCASION OF HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2004

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I join today with many of my colleagues to commemorate Yom Ha-Shoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, which memorializes the 6 million Jews murdered by the Nazis during World War II.

We mourn the innocent lives and vibrant communities destroyed while the world shamefully stood silent. We encourage the advancement of Holocaust education and we must continue the battle against resurgent anti-Semitism and intolerance around the world.

We must also do more to stop the steady stream of hatred. The dramatic rise of anti-Semitic attacks and Holocaust denials in Europe and in Arab countries is unacceptable.

We shall never forget the horrific crimes of murder and destruction committed by the Nazis. We firmly commit ourselves to ensuring that future generations shall never be forced to endure the suffering, humiliation, and ultimate

death experienced by the victims of the Holocaust. We commit ourselves—as a country and as human beings—to never allow the pleas of those in need to ever again go unanswered.

We recommit ourselves to stand against anti-Semitism, discrimination, and intolerance in all forms—at home and abroad. As we reflect upon the murder of 6 million innocent Jewish men, women and children, and the systematic destruction of families and vibrant communities, we reestablish our determination to confront the past, and our dedication to perpetuating the memory of those who suffered.

We shall never forget.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2004

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the tragic horror of the Holocaust. The memory of the six million Jews murdered by the Nazis must never be forgotten.

Yom Ha Shoah, Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day, stands as the day when people all over the world remember the inhuman actions of Nazis and the righteous actions of heroes.

Six million people were murdered in concentration camps, in homes, on the street, and in the ghettos.

Their lives were lost and all that is left are memories and mementos.

We must remember the lives of those who perished during the Holocaust. We must teach the children of the horror and terror that can happen when the world turns the other way and refuses to notice hatred and bigotry, racism and anti-Semitism.

When I visited Israel and Yad va Shem, I remember walking into the Hall of Remembrance and seeing the single memorial flame casting light in the dark room.

The memorial light always burns never forgetting what took place during the Holocaust.

It is this light that I think of when I hear that Temple Emanu-El in San Bernardino held an interfaith ceremony commemorating the Holocaust.

But commemoration should not end with Holocaust Remembrance Day. Throughout the year, whenever we see the injustice of anti-Semitism and the injustice of racism we need to remember the Holocaust and speak out.

All over Europe, the Middle East and North America, anti-Semitic acts occur with disheartening frequency. We must speak out against these attacks. We must speak out against the stereotypes and anti-Semitic forgeries seen on the Internet and in the foreign press. We must speak out against all racist and bigoted actions.

We must be vigilant, so that we can say that the Holocaust will never happen again.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2004

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Yom

Hashoah, Holocaust Martyr's and Heroes Remembrance Day. I join the people of Israel and those around the world to memorialize the 6 million Jews who were murdered by the Nazis during World War II.

In 1933, there were over 9 million European Jews. By 1945, close to two out of every three had been killed as part of the Nazi's Final Solution. European cities have never recovered the diversity and way of life they had prior to the war. The Jewish people killed were teachers, lawyers, doctors, musicians, parents, and children. These innocents were killed because they were Jewish and targeted for no other reason, they were no different from you or I.

There are few Holocaust survivors alive and it is important for them to share their stories and educate people about the Holocaust, here and abroad. Over 50 years have passed since the Holocaust but anti-Semitism still exists. There has been an upsurge of anti-Semitism overseas and it must stop before there are further extreme acts.

We must also remember the others who were murdered for being different. Gypsies, the handicapped, and Poles were also targeted for destruction or decimation for racial, ethnic, or national reasons. Millions more, including homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war, and political dissidents, also suffered grievous oppression and death under Nazi tyranny for no specific reason except they were different.

The Holocaust was not an accident. It was a planned attempted extermination. Individuals, organizations and governments made choices that not only legalized discrimination but also allowed prejudice, hatred, and ultimately, mass murder to occur. As a global society we must work to ensure something like this does not occur again.

We will never forget.

SO THAT THE WORLD WILL NEVER FORGET: REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2004

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to join with my community and my colleagues to recognize Yom HaShoah, the day established to remember the state-sponsored persecution and murder of approximately six million Jews by the Nazi regime and its collaborators.

Yom HaShoah, the Hebrew word for destruction, is the term used to describe the war that swept up the souls of six million Jews between 1938 and 1945. A war in which unspeakable atrocities were perpetrated against a defenseless and blameless people, whose only "crime" was their religious beliefs.

Men and women, young and old alike, perished at the hands of the Nazis and their allies. Every year, on Yom HaShoah, we remember the martyrs who perished in the camps, in the ghettos, and in the gas chambers.

It has been 60 years since the Holocaust. To survivors, and those who lost friends and family members, it remains real and ever-present. But to many people, who did not directly experience the Holocaust or have a connection to those who did, 60 years makes the Holocaust seem like ancient history.